

Respondent No: 49

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1. What is your interest in the Great Ocean Road Region?

Secondary residence

2. Are you completing this survey on behalf of an organisation?

No

3. How many times did you travel along the Great Ocean Road (any section between Torquay and Allansford) in the last

Most weekends

4. What do you love most about the Great Ocean Road and its landscapes?

It is the raw attraction of the natural beauty of the landscape and the ocean. We are also captivated by the dramatic ways in which the landscape and the ocean changes depending upon the weather patterns, the time of day, and the season.

We also enjoy very much the native animals and birds. In a way we have become very attached to the land and its beauty in much the same way that Aboriginal people have been I suspect for thousands of years.

5. What aspect of the Great Ocean Road and its landscapes would you most like to see protected?

Over development is by far the greatest threat. In a way small hamlets like Separation Creek, Wye River, Kennett River, and Grey River provide very restricted opportunities for development as the hillsides are steeply sloped which restricts development and there is no reticulated water supply. There are limited numbers of blocks of land for sale and this too restricts over development.

Apollo Bay on the other hand is at great risk of over development and there should be tight controls on the sort of developments that are provided with building permits otherwise there is a risk of this becoming like Surfers Paradise.

6. What aspect of the Great Ocean Road and its landscapes would you most like to see changed?

There would be need to be carefully planned and managed facilities for the increasing number of tourists visiting the region. Toilets and other facilities at Kennett River are sub-standard, for example.

More funding is required to maintain the Great Ocean Road in pristine condition. If this road is a number one tourist destination for people visiting Australia then there needs to be a significant investment in road infrastructure particularly from Eastern View through to Apollo Bay.

7. Do you work for, own or operate a business, or are you a member of a community organisation, that benefits from visitors to the Great Ocean Road Region?

No

8. Is there any critical issue or opportunity that we have missed (in chapter 3 of the Issues Paper)?

Perhaps a couple of points. The document talks a lot about local communities and visitors. There are also a group of people that regularly stay in caravan parks or holiday houses (part time retirees or families with a holiday house, for example, who should also be considered as part of the local community). Not all investment properties are necessarily owned by people in Melbourne, some properties are holiday homes owned by families that make a contribution to local communities by the participation in surf life saving, or by working in local businesses for example.

Road signage, whilst important, will not in itself resolve the significant problem of overseas drivers and tourists. It is all about driver education. As an example, on numerous occasions drivers along the Great Ocean Road will get caught behind a slow driver (40km/hr in an 80km/hr zone) and that driver despite being provided with multiple opportunities to allow other drivers to pass fails to do so. Is it education or is there a language barrier?

9. Do you have any suggested changes to the overarching policy, goals and principles (pages 40 - 41) in the Issues Paper?

No

10. What elements would you like to see covered in a Strategic Framework Plan for the Great Ocean Road Region?

Town Structure is a complex one as it will differ from town to town (as discussed in Q.5. above). But there does need to be an over arching plan to control development (Heritage Overlay etc).

Fire safety for townships.

Beach facilities, infrastructure, parking, safety

11. What are your thoughts about establishing a new organisation to oversee the development, and coordinate implementation, of a Strategic Framework Plan for the Great Ocean Road Region?

Given the importance of the Great Ocean Road and the communities through which it travels, and the number of organisations that presently have varying responsibilities I think this is a good idea.

12. What current constraints need to be addressed in the future governance arrangements?

Funding for roads and tourist infrastructure

Balancing the need for development with the need to preserve the natural beauty

Engaging with local communities - esp. Separation Creek, Wye River, Kennett River, and Grey River. This section of the GOR is unique.

13. Are there any other management models /options we should consider?

No

14. What key criteria should the Taskforce use to evaluate the management model options?

What is your age range?

██████

Please provide your country of residence if you are not an Australian resident

I agree to the privacy statement

yes